

LeChee CHAPTER COMMUNITY EDUCATION & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

The following is an outline for the LeChee Chapter Community Education and Public Participation Program as part of the Community Based Land Use Plan. The public participation plan is an effort to assure maximum community participation. The use and recommendation of the Community Land Use Planning Committee members, in conjunction with input obtained from the LeChee Chapter Council members, will represent the communities overall policy of reaching out to the community members and involving citizens in the local planning process.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the LeChee Chapter Community Education and Public Participation Plan is to allow for maximum community member participation in the formulation, writing, and implementation of the LeChee Chapter's Community Based Land Use Plan. Ongoing public involvement and input into the local planning process is a critical component of assuring a Land Use Plan that is responsive to the local needs of the community and that assures orderly growth and development.

The "**Resolution of the Transportation and Community Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council**" (TCDCF-13-02) includes a "*Comprehensive Community-Based Land Use Planning Guidelines*". Within these Guidelines, Section IV: Comprehensive Community-Based Land Use Plan Requirements is the requirement

- A. *Community education and participation plan describing the methods employed by the CLUPC to educate the community about the land use planning process.*

GOAL

The Goal of the Education & Public Participation Plan would be to:

1. Provide effective, early and continuous public participation in the development of the Community Based Land Use Plan from all geographic, ethnic and economic areas of the LeChee Chapter. The procedures shall provide for:
 - a. The broad dissemination of information
 - b. The opportunity for verbal and written comments

- c. Public workshop/hearings after effective notice
 - d. Open discussions, communications, programs and information services
 - e. Consideration of public comments
2. Consult and advise with chapter elected officials, public officials and agencies, associates for governments, public land management agencies, other appropriate government jurisdictions, public utility companies, property owners and citizens generally to secure maximum coordination of plans and to indicate properly located sites for all public purposes on the Land Use Plan.

1.0 DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLUPC)

In an effort to guide the planning process, the LeChee Chapter will establish the formation of a Community Land Use Planning Committee which will be responsible for overseeing the overall planning process as it evolves over a twelve month period. The committee will review each phase of the planning document, conduct meetings and provide guidance and direction to the local planning process. In addition, the committee will conduct meetings and will provide a very integral part in establishing local policies and planning recommendations. Finally, they will make recommendations to the community and chapter council.

2.0 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION PROCESS

In an effort to comply with TCDCF's public education and participation requirements, the LeChee Chapter is committed to assuring a very effective public input component of the land use plan process. The Chapter seeks to assure effective, early, and continuous public education and participation in the development of the land use plan from all geographic, ethnic and economic areas of the chapter. The following items represent the Chapter's attempts to encourage maximum public participation.

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

- LeChee Chapter will post Notices for all public meetings and hearings concerning the LeChee Chapter Community Based Land Use Plan at public offices throughout the community, such as Chapter Hall; the Post Office; the Senior Center and at other locations throughout the community which are considered appropriate in an effort to obtain maximum chapter residents participation. All notices shall be posted at a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the actual time and date of the scheduled public meeting or hearing.

- When appropriate, legal notices and/or display ads shall be advertised in the local newspapers of general circulation at a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the actual time and date of the scheduled public meeting or hearing.
- If available, public workshop/meetings notices will be sent to the local Navajo radio station for broadcast at least 3 days prior to the meeting.
- To obtain additional input, direct mail information may be sent concerning meeting contents and materials to local elected and appointed officials; involved Navajo agencies or departments; local businesses; or any other organizations, groups or concerned chapter residents who request to be placed on a mailing list. When appropriate, this will include all people who attend the various meetings.
- Notices and information concerning public meeting or hearing contents, if applicable, shall be made available for public review at LeChee Chapter House seven (7) days prior to the actual time and date of the scheduled public meeting or hearing.
- All notices will contain the statement that written materials will be accepted at the LeChee Chapter House up until three (3) days prior to the actual time and date of the scheduled public meeting or hearing. All public input statements and comments will be addressed at meetings, public workshops or hearings for review and consideration.
- Public comments will be accepted and considered throughout the entire land use planning process. Comments will be accepted by means of written statements; by telephone; or may be recorded at public meetings, workshops and hearings conducted within the chapter.
- The Chapter will have a local telephone contact to receive input from interested parties and answer questions about the land use plan process.
- The consultant will hold public workshops at various times to receive plan input and define the plan process; or provide training to the staff and/or CLUPC members to conduct the smaller meetings.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The LeChee Chapter will take appropriate measures to coordinate efforts with local radio stations to have scheduled meetings advertised in the form of a public service announcement. Such measures will be utilized to generate additional interest in the LeChee Chapter Community Based Land Use Plan process and to inform local residents on upcoming events. The consultant, CLUPC members

and/or elected officials will be available to appear at radio stations or on local meetings to discuss the plan process.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Consultant may assist the LeChee Chapter in distributing a Community Planning Survey in an effort to further obtain local input for the Community Based Land Use Plan process. The Survey will be distributed at the LeChee Chapter House and/or by CLUPC members covering their respective areas of the Chapter. All information will be utilized to assist the community in the formulation of local policies and in planning for the future growth and development of the LeChee Chapter.

PUBLIC VISIONING PROCESS

The Consultant, in conjunction with elected officials, the CLUPC members and Chapter staff, will conduct an initial Chapter Visioning Process Workshop to determine the wishes and desires that the people of LeChee as it relates to the long term future of their community. During this process, community issues will be identified and refined.

3.0 AGENCY COORDINATION

Throughout the development of the LeChee Chapter Community Based Land Plan, the LeChee Chapter will be in direct contact with agencies and organizations in an effort to keep them informed of the community planning process. As part of this process, the Chapter will submit the Community Based Land Use Plan document to the following agencies for review:

- a. LeChee Chapter officials
- b. Office of Navajo Government Development

4.0 PLAN ADOPTION

Upon completion of a thirty day (30) public review process by CLUPC members, all public comments, and relevant statements and observations submitted by chapter residents, will be considered prior to finalizing the draft version of the LeChee Chapter Community Based Land Use Plan. Upon completion of the draft version, the plan will be submitted to the LeChee CLUPC members for their review and final approval. Upon approval by the CLUPC members, the final plan will be submitted to the LeChee Chapter council adoption.